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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/026,071	12/24/2001	Hans-Peter Lasse	GR00P80214	8168

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EXAMINER

DANG, KHANH NMN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2111

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/026,071

Applicant(s)

LASSLE ET AL.

Examiner

Khanh Dang

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

In claim 9, page 15, line 7, "said second" should be changed to – said second line --.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 11, page 16, line 1, "the first level" lacks antecedent basis. Such term has not been properly defined or recited in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fleck.

At the outset, it is noted that similar claims will be grouped together to avoid repetition.

As broadly drafted, these claims do not define any structure/step that differs from Fleck.

With regard to claim 6, Fleck discloses a system for exchanging data, comprising: a program-controlled device (processing unit 2); a logic circuit (bus control unit 3); a first line (control bus 6) conducting a control signal from said program-controlled device (2) to said logic circuit (3); and a bidirectionally usable, second line (bidirectional data bus 5) connecting said program-controlled device (2) to said logic circuit (3), said second line (5) being placeable in a dominant state by said logic circuit when data transmission is to be made by said logic circuit.

With regard to claim 7, the program-controlled device (2) is a microcontroller.

With regard to claim 8, it is clear from Fleck that the control signal is a strobe.

With regard to claim 9, the second line (control bus 6) carries a control signal; said program-controlled device (processing unit 2) and said logic circuit (bus control unit 3) form programs for transmitting data; said second line (data bus 5) enables data transmission from said logic circuit (3) to said program-controlled device (2) by maintaining a recessive state (wait states in Fleck) for a predefined time after a level change of the control signal and switching said second line to the dominant state (READY state) by the program-controlled device after the predefined time has expired; and said program-controlled device starts to transmit data to the logic circuit following the level change of the control signal.

With regard to claim 10, the program-controlled device (processing unit 2) switches said second line to the recessive state (wait states in Fleck) before the

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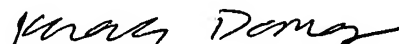
predefined time has expired to enable data transmission from said logic circuit (bus control unit 3) to said program-controlled device (processing unit 2). See also at least column 8, line 26 to column 9, line 21.

With regard to claim 11, the second line (data bus 5) is in the recessive state (wait states in Fleck); and said program-controlled device (processing unit 2) requests to receive data, maintains said second line (data bus 5) in the recessive state (countable wait states representing a predefined time), places the control signal in the first level, and starts counting the predefined time. See also at least column 8, line 26 to column 9, line 21.

With regard to claims 1-5, it is clear that one using the device of Fleck would have performed the same steps set forth in claims 1-5.

U.S. Patent No. 6,530,006 TO Dodd et al. is cited as relevant art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Khanh Dang at telephone number 703-308-0211.



Khanh Dang
Primary Examiner